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**UNIVERSITY OF MAINE SYSTEM MEDIA STATEMENT**

*University of Maine System Chancellor James H. Page issued a statement today following consultation with the UMS Board of Trustees executive committee:*

The University of Southern Maine is facing challenges that demand significant change. I support President Botman's efforts to address these challenges, and at the same time I take the concerns raised by the Faculty Senate in its recent action very seriously.

Respecting the Faculty Senate process, I am committed to engaging with all members of the University community to address their concerns. It is nevertheless essential that—at all times and especially now—the University community act in a unified way to serve our students and the people of Maine.